

Philad^a Oct. 1824.

Mr Editor

It is probable that you receive Mexican news by way of the Pacific trade almost as promptly as we by way of the Mississippi and the Gulf, but it cannot fail to be of interest to you to learn in what temper men of the middle and northern States regard the ~~new~~ news of victory after victory and advance after advance ~~of the~~ American troops in a foreign Country. We have heard but recently of the several battles that preceded the occupation of the Capital by General Scott. Good men have been horrified at the ~~great~~ loss of life at Charabasco, la Mulino & in Mexico itself. Three thousand on the one side, five thousand on the other are known to have fallen. Good men ask themselves why? To what end is such carnage? How will a war so bloody ^{justified or} be terminated? Who will receive honor at the hands of posterity for an invasion productive of such misery and nakedness; which has depraved and debauched the invaders and destroyed and undone the invaded? To say nothing of the expense ~~so~~ incurred, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars; to say nothing of the thousands of diseased, disabled and dead on both sides; to say nothing of the unlimited opportunity given to crimes

of every hue, the perpetration of which by soldiers in
~~and~~ the regular armies and by vagabonds over the Country
 and in the Cities, make the Land ^{to} stink in the nos-
 trils of God; to say nothing of innocent women and
 Children slain or beggared, their houses destroyed,
 their fathers and brothers butchered or brutalized,
 — what answer can be given when good men ask
 for the principle according to which all this happens?
 For what are we fighting? We know what Mexicans
 fight for; — their homes, their families, their land
 and liberty. There are bad men in Mexico as every
 where else; but thousands will fight til they die
 for love of land and liberty, as our fathers did
 against the invading armies of Great Britain.
 But what do we invade them for? Good men among
 us cannot answer why; but they hang their heads and
 sigh and cry to God. The greater number however
 seem to listen with eagerness and I fear with pleas-
 ure, to the news of repeated victories and conquests,
 which come to us by steamer and magnetic telegraph
 from the Southwest. The insatiable lust of glory which
 has in all ages wrought so much evil to mankind
 deludes the people ~~and~~ to the injustice & horror of

the war. The administration is supported in all
 its acts. The generals are praised and hurraed for
 and spoken ~~of~~ as our next Presidents. ~~The~~ Mexican
 troops are ~~spoken of~~ ^{named} with contempt and aversion. Every
 man killed on the American side is said to be murdered.
 Our principle never to conquer but always to defend
 is quite forgotten. Mercy and Truth are unknown
 virtues to our popular newspapers. Peace seems hard-
 ly to be desired until all Mexico is subjected. Such
 is the feeling throughout the Country and every good man
 who ~~says~~ speaks in a different tone is abused as a
 man destitute of patriotism and who loves another
 Country better than his own. The press being almost
 silent, the pulpit is scarcely less so, although a
 number of Clergymen have begun to brave the popular
 outcry and plead for God and peace. — Our condition
 is an unsatisfactory one. We hold the City of Mexico
 but need an army to keep the Vera Cruz road in pas-
 sable order. The government has quitted the Capital
 and it is impossible to follow or find it. What is to be
 done? Nothing, but keep possession. Thus "one wrong always
 leads to another", and "two wrongs never made a
 right". God give us a safe exit from this sin. P.

in cracks in the rock; don't you? Gneiss is a metamorphosed rock and contains not even fossils. How can the grass-roots penetrate into it 20 feet?

Am truly sorry for your friend & the Consul's departure, but hope you will have more than one equally good to supply his vacant place. I expect to return to the city on Monday next and find Mrs White settled in her new rooms opposite Grace Church in Mr. Judge Randall's house. I'm as poor as Job's turkey or I would send you a package of books ~~to~~ with this. I had given me three numbers of your paper the other day, the first I had seen. I now know what sort of matter you want and how you work it up. Your sheet looks well and I trust may be of use. I'll send you enclosed a short letter on the war.

Affectingly
Peter.

1858
Philadelphia

Jerusalem

Rev^d David Trumbull
Valparaiso, Chili.

Care of Ed. Bartlett, Esq. New York.

